

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides methods of expressing a nucleic acid or producing a proteinaceous composition encoded by a nucleic acid in vascular and cardiovascular cells by administration of a herpesvirus vector. The present invention provides methods of producing a therapeutic benefit in vascular and cardiovascular tissue by administration of a herpesvirus vector. In additional aspects, the invention concerns combination therapies for vascular and cardiovascular diseases comprising administration of a herpesvirus vector and treatment with at least one additional pharmacological agent or surgical procedure.